CUBA.

The Spanish Press on the Situation.

TERRIFIC ATTACK ON CASTELAR.

Journalistic Jeremiads Over the Virginius.

The Diario Office Robbed of a Fortune.

HAVANA, Dec. 20, 1873. El Eco de Cuba, a semi-monthly sheet, which purports to be a fortnightly review of the political which is intensely devoted to the most conservative and retrograde interests of the Spanish party in Cuba, and has a large circulation in old Spain, appears in the last issue, of the 14th, with a border of mourning, "an inky cloak of solemn black," and again, like Hamlet, "has that within which passeth

The Eco, which is altogether a libel and attack on the head of the Spanish Republic, leads off its columns with the following piece of childishness:-

We are no rebels, we can never be rebels. We respect and obey the principle of authority, and for this reason the Virginius len the port of Havana, but our hearts are overwhelmed with deep grief; to-day all loyal hearts put on mourning, and for this reason the Eco de Cuba appears with a black border.

the following terms, which I give nearly in full, to show the rebellious spirit-in print, at least-of

THE SPANISH PARTY in this island. The tone of the article indicates clearly that the surrender of the Virginius is not forgotten, that it still rankles in the Spanish heart, and that only a fitting opportunity is wanting to take revenge in some shape for what is believed to be a crime. The reinquishment by the United States of the demand for a salute to the flag gives them great heart in Havana. Several spaniards were heard to say this morning, on reading this news:-- "We have won one point. All you have to do with these Yankees is to kill their men, put them to the expense of \$5,000,000 or \$6,000,000, return their old ships and apologize. It has cost us about \$300,000 to get our old guns mounted on our old forts and to make the show of getting ready for war; it has cost the Yankees millions. We

LOST NOTHING BUT THE OLD SHIP, and we could afford that." This expression of sentiment is pretty general, and once more the Spanish mind is inflated with the notion that America is but a small potato Power anyhow, and "will stand the rubbing in."

The following are translations from the article of El Eco de Cuba-a misnomer, by the way-already referred to:-

The steamer Virginius, which had already before conducted, and was again conducting munitions of war and officers and men to the camps of our enemy, left the port of Havana, to be delivered to a vessel of war of the United States, at three o'clock on the morning of the 12th of December—a date to remain lorever in the memory of all loyal Spaniards. Way should not the truth be spoken

out, although

THE ELUSH OF SHAME

suffuses our cheek, and our hearts are torn by the deepest grief? What reproach and what ignominy! What shame for the actual government of the Peninsula! What an eternal curse of history for those who have torn to tatters the holy mantle of the country! The just indignation which overpowers us arrests our pen and takes away our imagination. How can we remain quiet and calm, while the seal of dishonor is impressed on the brow of our mother? For to the loyal of Cuba there is no mother more beloved, more august and more holy than an idolized Spain.

"May God forgive me, and may history forget me," said, with siren sweetness, the man whom late has placed in

THE HIGHEST SEAT OF POWER

me," said, with siren sweetness, the man whom late has placed in

THE HIGHEST SEAT OF POWER
of our country; but God cannot forgive him nor can history forget him. The curse of God will fall on his head, as will the curse of more than 100,000 Spanish mothers, who have lost the children of their bosoms in the present war, but gave them up to their country, consoled with the idea that their blood was shed in the holiest of causes—the cause of Spain in Cuba: and the man who has humiliated and disgraced us has made this blood most barren, has made our countiess sacrifices barren, and has made barren four centuries of martyrdom and labors.

The curse of history will accompany him in future ages; on his name will be the execration of our times—terrible times, grievous times—when

nture ages; on his name will be the execration of our times—terrible times, grievous times—when the proud nation of the Catholic kings is forced to bow at the feet of a people of adventurers.

In the name of the Spaniards of Cuba, insular and peninsular; in the name of all Spaniards who have not denied their blood, the Eco de Cuba protests against the protocol signed in Washington on the 29th of November, 1873, between Hamilton Phah, Secretary of State of the United States, and Señor Polo de Bérnabe, Spanish Rear Admiral and Minister of Spain, at Washington, and approved by the government of the Republic.

the government of the Republic.

The attitude taken by the Spanish people of this province since the 29th of last November, on which day it became known that the government of the metropolis was in negotiation with that of Washington on the basis of

metropolis was in negotiation with that of Washington on the basis of

THE SUREKNER OF THE VIRGINIUS,
until the 12th of December, on which day the critical surrender was made, could not have been more dignified or patriotic. "Think not of what may beight us, for we are ready to sacrifice our lives and iortunes, but save the honor of the country," were the words addressed to Castelar by the colonels of volunteers and the Casino Español on the 29th of November, or as soon, indeed, as news was received of the shameful compact concluded in Washington. But Castelar, who once said, in a memorable speech—a speech which alwed him to reach the seat he now occupies—that "he was a Spaniard before he was a republican." has proved that he was a party man before being a Spaniard; that, to prolong for a few days the existence of his ste. ile Republic, he has sacrificed the honor of Spain, he has destroyed the domination of our country in America, and he it is who has most crumbled away the august temple of the national integrity, he who once spoke to us of the immortal Gerons and the sacred Saragossa.

With a number of very highly laudatory phrases

With a number of very highly landatory phrases Virginius left Havana because General Jovellar ordered it and because they (the Spaniards) cannot be rebels, the Eco continues its attack upon Cas-

telar as follows:—

If Castelar believes that by the signing of the protocol in Washington by his worthy representative, Admiral Polo, the danger has terminated, he is very much mistaken; the question has only been postponed, not settled, as what was said by Grant in his message concering Cuba but shows the perfldy, the bad faith, the stupidity of the government of the United States which desires to interfere in Cuba. Perhans this manifest intention has ment of the United States which desires to Inter-fere in Cuba. Perhaps this manifest intention has caused to be understood the magnitude of the con-flict which would arise by refusing to surrender the Virginius, which would have served as a pre-text for the Americans to interfere and in the name of Spain bombard our ports under the Spanish flag. What an immense triumph for the Republic presided over by Senor Castelar i If the

Spanish flag. What an immense triumph for the Republic presided over by Schor Castelar!

If the PHRASECLOGY OF THE PROTOCOL is studied, it will be observed that the United States have obtained all the advantage. If Spain proves the vessel not to be American, the salute will be omitted; but Spain will have, at all events, to give satisfaction, declaring that she had no intention of offending the United States. Spain will have to prove the illegality of the ship's papers to the satisfaction of the government of the United States, which is equal to saying she can never prove it, as up to this time the government of the United States has given very few instances of good faith in its relations to Spain. Should the United States has given very few instances of good faith in its relations to Spain. Should the United States solvenment be satisfied with the proofs presented by Spain, which must be done before Christmas, the United States will investigate the matter and will establish legal proceedings against the vessel if it be shown that it has violated any of the laws of the United States. That is to say, that the same will be done as has been done with the Hornet, the trial of which was a farce; and in regard to proceedings against the persons who appear to be guilty of illegal acts in connection with that vessel, do not Jordan. Norton, Chauvean and many other fillbusters walk about New York unharmed? It seems our authorities do not know the way justice is administered there. Legal proceedings are established, and that is all. In exchange the United States demands that Spain shall investigate the conduct of the authorities who have infringed the laws or treaties of Spain, and shall try them before competent courts, punishing those who are found guilty. And what does Spain obtain in exchange for the concessions made in this infamous protocol? Nothing, and yet Spain is the offended nation, for against her the expedition of the Virgicius was directed. Should Spain show by evident proofs that this vessel had lost all ri

the enormity of the crime which constitutes the second? And if Spain proves that the Virginius was the property of insurgent Cubans, does not Spain have more right to the possession of the vessel than the United States? What reparation does Spain obtain for this attempt and the damages, costs and charges occasioned by reason of it?

"All these considerations," says the Eco, "CS-caned the attention of the strength of the streng

caped the attentions of our representatives, and Minister Sickles got the best of THE WEAK AND PRIGHTENED EXECUTIVE OF UNPOR-

The proposed delivery of the prisoners is thus re-

That the United States should demand—and that there should be a Spanish government so weak as to accede to it—the surrender of the Virginius, for the reason of not allowing the right of visitation, which is equivalent to the most cynical protection of all kinds of piracy, may be possible; but we nor no one else can understand, nor will history ever understand, that there should be a Spanish government which would surrender to a foreign government spanish subjects confessedly guilty of the crime of treason against their country. To give up the British subjects and American citizens might pass; but to surrender Spanish citizens is to arrive at the pitch of dishonor and ignominy, spainst which we protest—dishonor and ignominy which will forever accompany the signers of the Washington protocol and the weak anti-Spanish government which sanctioned it.

GOING FOR GRANT.

It appears incredible that the Chief Magistrate of a nation of 36,000,000 of inhabitants, upon addressing the representatives of the same, should express himself regarding another Power in the terms which Mr. Grant has made use of—terms injurious against the Spaniards of Cuba, and so unworthy and calumnious as to draw a most ardent protest from all loyal ones.

The Eco de Cuba concludes this article with the admission that the future of Spain in America pre-That the United States should demand-and that

admission that the future of Spain in America pre. sented itself very gloomy and obscure, and invokes the curse of God and the Spanish people to punish those who have caused so much shame and dishonor and ignominy. Immense numbers of this issue, with its inflammatory attack on Castelar, were sent to Spain by the last steamer, and it was said that the journal had been heavily fined by the government here, but I see this rumor noticed and denied by the Voz de

THE CUBAN AGENCY.

Carlos Del Castillo the Temporary Agent— General Quesada Relieved—Miguel Aldama the Reported Permanent Agent, with Ample Powers.
Mr. Carlos del Castillo the associate of General

Quesada in the Agency abroad of the Cuban epublic, showed to a representative of the HERALD a number of authentic communications and interesting documents which he had just re-ceived from the Executive in free Cuba. These papers covered a space of time between July 25 and the 1st of last month. They bore the signatures of Francisco Maceo, the new Secretary of State: Vicente Garcia, General Calvar, General Francisco J. Cespedes and other well known Cuban

The communication from the Secretary of State orders the recognition of Carlos del Castillo as the sole Cuban agent abroad, for the time being, and the separation of Don Manuel Quesada from the position of associate agent, which he has recently filled with efficacy and energy. Secretary Maceo then proceeds to say :-

The new administration has resolved to establish in New York the general and diplomatic agency abroad; and until the government has resolved definitely who to name to these posts it expects that the patriculum of Mr. Carlos del Castillo will decide him to accept of the temporary charge of affairs in the United States. General Quesada will cease to take part in the business of the agency, the government reserving to itself the utilization of his services in a manner that while he keeping with his military character.

usco V. Aguilera, the Vice President of the Cuban Republic, "so that he may return and resume the charge of the Vice Presidency; that being in the meantime filled by Salvador Cisneros, the Marquis of Santa Lucia, the former President of the Cham-

"Then," asked the reporter, "if Mr. Aguilera returns to free Cuba, will he be placed at the head

of the Executive ?" "Yes. The Cuban constitution provides that the Vice President takes the place of the President when the latter is disabled from acting or cannot discharge the duties of his office. Had Mr. Aguilera been in the Cuban camp when Cespedes was deposed he would, as a matter of right, have taken the place of his out-going superior functionary. In the absence of the Vice President Mr. Cisneros, by virtue of his position as President of the Chamber

the place of the Vice President Mr. Cisneros, by virtue of his position as President of the Chamber of Deputies, assumes charge of the Executive until the return of Mr. Aguilera to his post."

"According to that there will be no elections for President in 'Unba Llore ?"

"None. When the Vice President returns to the Republic, Cisneros, now at the head of the government, will deliver over the Executive to the higher official, as a matter of course. There will be no trouble at all about this. There was none when Mr. Cespedes was declared out of office. Cubans are intimately acquainted with the laws which they themselves have established. They always have duly obeyed them and they ever will." "Does Mr. Aguilera know of these orders from your State Department?"

"He does, it became my duty to transmit to him a copy of the communication which I have received from the Cuban Secretary of State, Mr. Francisco Macco, who, by the way, I have heard, with great regret, is now dead. He is reported to have died some 18 days after accepting office."

"What position under the government does General Quesada retain?"

"That of major general in the army. He may be considered now as in waiting ior orders, and might at any time be ordered on active service."

"It has been rumored—even stated in the papers—that Mr. Aldama was appointed Cuban Agent abroad. Is there any truth in this report?"

"None whatever. Here, you see, are the documents appointing me sole agent for the time being. I cannot tell what the government may do in the future; but just now, according to these papers, I am its only authorized representative."

General Aguilera was found in the headquarters of the Iriends of Cuba, in Exchange place. This distinguished patriot, after regaling the HRRALD—that paper which, above all others, he thought, has taken an eminently American and truly liberal view of Cuban matters generally, and particularly the discussion connected with the Virginius question.

"It is said, General, that you have been recalled to Cuba?" was asked h

portion of the term for which Cespedes was elected."

"May I ask if you purpose returning to Cuba; and if so, what will be the effect of your presence there."

"I shall go back to free Cuba the very first opportunity, and without delay enter upon the discharge of my somewhat arduous functions. We have established a code of laws anniagous to those of the United States. When the President cannot act the Vice President takes his place, and the presiding officer of the Chamber in such case acts as Vice President as in this instance. When I return to Cuba the Marquis of Santa Lucia, now at the head of the government there, will go back to his distinguished place in the chair of the Chamber of Deputies."

"What position will General Quesada now take?"

"I do not know. He is major general in the army."

"The present agent of Cuba is, I believe, Mr. Cas-

"The present agent of Cuba is, I believe, Mr. Castillo?"

"No, Mr. Miguel Aldama is the only authorized agent abroad of the Cuban Republic. He has great power from the government and can appoint subagents anywhere that he pleases."

"But, General, I thought that Mr. Castillo is the accredited agent of the new government. Did he not receive the news of your recall to the island and transmit it to you?"

"Mr. Castillo was appointed agent pro tempore. Mr. Aldama has since been named as the permanent representative abroad of the Cuban government. His appointment bears date of November 22d. Mr. Francisco Macco, who was called to the head of the State Department by Cisneros, died eighteen days after accession to office, and the sub-Secretary, Mr. Jurtado del Valle, has been promoted to take the place of his deceased superior."

CUBAN SLAVERY.

INTERVIEW WITH SENOR ZULUETA

The Views on Slavery of a Mighty Slaveowner.

HIS PLAN OF EMANCIPATION.

Slaveholders Recognizing the Necessity of Abolition.

PLEA FOR THE VOLUNTEERS.

The Insurrection a Flash in the Pan.

HAVANA, Dec. 20, 1873. After we had exhausted Minister Soler's special fund of information on the slavery question we wended our way to the residence of His Excellency Don Julian de Zulueta, President of the Casino Español of Havana, Colonel of the Second battalion of volunteers, President of the Junta de la Deuda (Treasury debt), President of the Colonization Society, Cabellero of the Grand Cross of Isabei la Catolica and possessor of various other titles, too numerous for the space of the HERALD. The house where this famous man, the owner of 2,500 slaves, dwells had nothing pretentious either in its external or internal appearance, but report says that away from here, in the quiet retirement of Marianso he has a villa that Tiberius might have envied for its luxurious appointments, minus the particular attraction which made the Capuan retreat of the Roman Emperor so especially attractive. The powerful Colonel of the volunteers, whose influence outweighs that of the Captain General, was not at home. The languid guardian of the porte cochere informed us that His Excellency was not likely to be found at home during the remainder of the day, but that in the early morning we might succeed in meeting him at his office. It was at the entrance of the court yard, at one side of which several carriages were drawn up, while in the centre three chestnutbrown horses pawed the pavement, that we sat smoking our cigars in the cool and early morning, awaiting the great man's appearance in his reception chamber. The signal given we ascended to the first story, and, passing through a low-roofed room and over a bridge that spanned the entrance, found ourselves in the presence of the mighty slaveowner and the principal inspiration of the

Talk as people may, the Spaniards have some excellent traits of character. There is a hospitality in their address that the stranger feels in the tenderest fibres of his heart, and what could be more generous than that full offer of kindly wel-"Mi casa esta a su disposicion" (my house is at your disposal). APPEABANCE OF HIS EXCELLENCY.

Señor Zulueta is a man of about 60 years, some what tall, and though a colonel of volunteers, bears nothing of a military appearance. He came from Spain many years ago, and worked himself up to his present high position of wealth and influence. He is a trifle like Ben Wood, sallow in complexion, with a silver-colored moustache and large eyelids that shade his vision almost entirely. He is a sensible-looking man, who might be the father of a large family and the proprietor of a conservative hotel. This rich man, rich as your Stewarts or Vanderbilts, had no external indications of his wealth. His dress was a simple suit of white linen, and the furniture of the room was of the most ordinary and, the storm over that shook this city like an earthquake, he spoke with an absence of passion and prejudice that was alike remarkable and un-looked for. He recognized your resident correspondent with a smile, and when the three of us were seated the conversation which follows was begun and continued in Spanish with a fluency and fulness that left nothing to be desired on the score of abundant enlightenment. THE INTERVIEW.

CORRESPONDENT-Recognizing you as the most important member of the Casino, we have called to inquire, for the HERALD, what your views are in regard to slavery and on the present state of affairs in Cuba.

Senor Zuluera-I am sensible of the importance of this question of slavery, and I can afford to say I am as deeply interested in it as any man on the island. The principal slaveholders of Cuba recognize the fact, as I do, that the abolition of slavery must come sooner or later, and we are prepared to meet the question in a practical and conciliatory spirit. Of course there are a few who shut thei eyes to this necessity, and will not tolerate mention of the abolition of slavery, but, in the long run, they must be governed by the sense of the majority. I am involved to the extent of several millions of dollars, and the sacrifice I should be called upon to make would naturally place me in antagonism to the policy of the government; but I am as much disposed as any man can be to adopt a pian that will rid us of the odium of slavery, while, at the same time, affording us some measure of relief from the embarrassment that would necessarily follow

THE COMPLETE EMANCIPATION of our slaves. You must bear in mind that we can expect no indemnity from Spain, as Spain is not in a condition to afford it. The loss to us would be very great, not so much in the forfeiture of the slave property as in the tremendous decrease of production which would follow the abolition of slavery. There is an immense amount of capital invested in this island in sugar and tobacco planting. What it would yield under another form of labor is apparent to anybody. It would necessarily furnish a smaller percentage of profit; but, even so, there is a majority of the slaveholders, as I am in a position to know, who are willing to forego the profits to attain the position of being removed from the reproaches of civilized coun tries. The thing to be depiored is that those who have to legislate for this island know so little of the slavery question. In the passage of the Moret law the home government struck out the provision that negroes over 60 years of age be maintained, dressed and assisted in sickness until their death, either by their former owners, if they desired to remain with them, or others who chose to take charge of them. Now we were perfectly willing to accept this provision. We knew what the opinion of the civilized world would say if we decreed emancipation and gave it only the PEATURES OF INHUMANITY.

The other day a deputation of slaveholders from Santiago de Cuba came here to propose the necessity of establishing a hospital at the expense of the State for negroes over 60 years. Had that provision been adopted there would be no occasion for establishing hospitals. The owners would have seen to the protection of the slaves after they had passed the limit of 60 years. Thus it is that in the discussion of this question in Madrid the gractical points to be ob-served are more or less ignored. To handle the question properly there should be some acquaintance with the actual workings of the slave system on this island. However much I may see the necessity and morality of its abolition, I cannot claim to represent the sentiments of others, though my conviction is that a great many feel as I do.

PLAN OF ABOLITION. CORRESPONDENT—As you are one of the most deeply interested, what might be the plan, if any, you have in contemplation for the abolition slavery ?

cussed this matter over. Lately we had a meeting, in response to the call of Minister Soler, at which, however, there were only 37 slaveholders present, and nothing definitive was accomplished. The

plan you inquire about, when thrown into form would be this. Let the slaves be declared emancipated subject to these conditions:-They shall pass from slavery to the patronate or care of their owners for a period of 10 years; the patronate to remain in force for that period, but to be renounced reasonable cause. The patronate shall have the right to use the labor of the emancipados with these obligations—to maintain and clothe them, to assist them in case of sickness, to pay them monthly such a sum of money as the law may determine, and to feed, clothe and aid in sickness the children that may be born to them. It should be stipulated that the patronate of the freedmen cannot be transferred except with the minor children under 12 years of age, whether natural or legitimate. The monthly allowance which we discussed at a meeting held some time ago should be to the emancipados of 12 to 18 years of age \$2 per month, payable to their parents, or, there being no parents, to their sponsors (padrinos), and from 18 to 60 years of age \$4 a month to the males and \$3 a month to the females. The patronate should cease in these ways: first, by the expiration of the 10 years fixed upon as its duration; second, by mutual agreement of the patron and his ward without the intervention of any one; third, by the renouncement for just cause of the patron's boligations, and lastly, for abuses proved against the patron. Under these provisions, should the patronate cease the emancipados remain under the protection of the state. Should it terminate by mutual agreement the emancipado enters into the general condition of those who are subject to the regulations of free labor. The law of Moret would explain and govern the rest—that all those born of slave mothers and all over 60 years are free from the time of the enactment of the statute.

WHERE THE OPPOSITION COMES FROM. that may be born to them. It should be stipulate

where the opposition comes from. Correspondent—What opposition is the this scheme?
Senor ZULUETA—With the exception of the per

Señor Zullusta—With the exception of the people of the Cinco Villas, there is a general disposition to take some effective steps towards emancipation. In the Cinco Villas they declare the law of Moret, passed in July, 1870, covers the whole ground. It is good enough for them. They argue that in 20 years from now, under the operation of this act, and with the consideration that the importation of slaves has ceased, there must be an end to slavery. Twenty years is time enough ior them, and they deem the law sufficiently effectual to carry out the object. But under the pressure of circumstances and opinion we consider bere that a more rapid scheme of emancipation, which will convince in its details that we are in carnest in this question, should be adopted.

Correspondent—What disturbance do you apprehend of the business of the island consequent upon emancipation.

señor Zulusta-Not a great deal. The time a

Correspondent—What disturbance do you apprehend of the business of the island consequent upon emancipation?

Señor Zuluera—Not a great deal. The time allowed for emancipation would enable us to bring in other labor from Asia, China and Japan (1) This consideration, however, is not so effective with other slaveholders, who apprehend that the present relations once disturbed will lead to disorganization. From my knowledge of the slave people I am not slarmed at the future. They will work with less effect, perhaps, but they will work nevertheless, and the apprehension of disorder and vagrancy is imaginary.

The insurgents Two-Thirds Negro.

Correspondent—Do you regard the insurrection as of serious moment to the stability of Spanish power in Cubar

Señor Zuluera—The insurrection would have been ended long ago if there had been anything like a settled government in Spain. The present one gives no confidence and only excites the hopes of the insurrectionists. As for its endangering the stability of the government here I am disposed to think we can stand it quite as long as they can. The insurrection derives its main support now from the hope that Spain is too seriously crippled at home to put forth any effort to crush it. But these insurgents are two-thirds negroes who have run away from their masters, and the insurrection at the best has neither strength nor character.

Correspondent—How is, it then, you have failed to put it down:

Señor Zuluera—Many things have happened. There has been a great deal of venality in the conduct of the war. There are men making money out of the present state of affairs who have influence enough to protong a war that might have been ended long ago if there was a serious effort made. General Portilla, who was so successful in pactying the Cinco Villas, will go down in a lew days from now to take command, and we expect satisfactory results to follow. We have quite enough to protong a war that might have been ended long ago if there was a serious effort they have been badly hundled and t

THE PRESS IN FREE CUBA.

The Mambi Journal, the "War Buil Letter of Condolence to General Agramonte's Wife.

Some time ago the HERALD published a Cuban official account of the capture of Santa Cruz by the patriots. The document was taken from the Mambi organ, El Boletin de la Guerra, of October 10, which, as was then stated, arrived by the underground railroad. Two more numbers of this little newspaper, published in the wilds of Cuba by the hardy sons of freedom who guard their native soil, have come to hand. They bear date of September 21 and 23 respectively. From them the fol lowing interesting news items are taken :-

General Maximo Gomez reports to the Secretar of War his having assumed command of the Cuban forces in Camaguer, and the giving of orders for a general concentration of them in Anton de Guanoa, for inspection, A flying column of 300 horses, and one of 600 infantry was then detailed norses, and one or 600 infantry was then detailed for service in offensive operations against the enemy. Several skirmishes were soon had with the Spaniards of Las Yegnas, Atadero and Santa Ana, the enemy not during to leave their camps to meet the Cubans in the field. The results of these operations were 69 Spaniards killed and 2 prisoners, 14 horses and 35 rifles captured, The Cubans lost 7 killed and 18 wounded.

Maximo Gomez, after detailing to the Secretary of War his combinations that led to the well remembered attack and occupation of Nuevietas, proceeds to give his official account of that achievement in these words:—

membered attack and occupation of Nuevietas, proceeds to give his official account of that achievement in these words:—
"The enemy made little resistance. They used their artillery, and, in vain, by the aid of rockets, asked assistance from the gunboat Neptune. The city was occupied an hour and a half by us. The public establishments were opened by the sappers, and a magnificent booty was taken from them, consisting of ciothing, provisions, and other valuable effects. The enemy had some losses in kined, aithough the number is unknown, and arms with ammunition were taken. Our forces retired without being molested. Our losses were 2 solders killed and 1 officer and 4 soldiers wounded."

wounded."
Gomez then proceeds to give an account of desultory actions with outlying forces, in all of which the Spaniards lost 25 killed, and 35 horses and 32 rifles captured.
The following letter of condolence has been addressed to the wife of the late Major General Ignacio Agramonte, and is from the Botelin de la Guerra:—

Ignacio Agramonte, and is from the Boletin de la Guerra:

Senora Amalia Sixoni de Agranonte:

Manam—a sorrowiel event of the war has wrested from you the hope of ever joining your illustrious husband in the great day of our country's triumph. Deep must be your bitteness, as the pain experienced by the people of suffering Cuba is great for the irreparable loss of the citizen deserving well of his country, who has shed his generous blood in Jimegoaya. And it a rare coincidence, a strange combination of circumstances deprived the hero of the last honor tributed to the soldier before committing his remains to the earth hundreds of veteran warriors gathered together when the unfortunate tidings were circulated, and, even still enveloped in the smoke of battle, they did not keep back the tear of sorrow and of indignation that rolled down their cheeks. The incomparable chief had failen forever; the master of all in war, the model of valor and constancy; he to whose qualities as a warrior and a patriotwere united the accomplishments of a gentleman; he who was respected as a leader and loved as a friend. There, in that solean act, all wept, it is true, but it was not that unfruitful wail of faint heartedness or desperation, it was the manny weeping of our country's soliders, it was that conscience imposed upon us all the duty of honoring the memory of the valarous chief, as heroes in war should be nonored. And his memory, madam, will be honored who did not valuly consecrate to his country years of labors and a thousand hardships crowned by a glorious death. His emirent teachings, and his great example will be as imperishable as the lummortal name of ignacio Agramonte y Loynaz.

Allow, madame, the expression of sorrowful mourning that, in the name of the army, the subalterns and companions of your illustrious husband send you.

Major General Junio Sanguily, second in command; Colonel Rafel Rodriguez, E. M.; Comte Enrique L. Mola, E. M.; Francisco Sanchez Belancourt, Representative of Camaguay.

General Junio Sanguily, se Cameguay.

General Headquarters in Najasa, Camaquay, July 9, 1873.

The law regulating the new military organization had been promulgated.

Lieutenant Coonel Henry Reeve has been promoted to the full rank of colonel.

Francisco Menilus Padillo, a Spaniard, who had passed over to the Cubans, has been commissioned as second lieutenant.

The new arms taken to the island by the Virginius on her last successful trip had been received in Camaguay.

THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

The Approaching Session of the New York Senate and Assembly.

THE QUESTION OF THE SPEAKERSHIP

The Interest of the Lobby in the Struggle and the Cause of Their Activity.

A Fine Prospect for a Rebellion in the Republican Camp.

The session of the Legislature of this State which

will open on the 6th of next month bids fair, judging from present indications, to be quite an active one. Of course it is not an easy matter to forecast with any degree of certainty at any time the general policy, so to speak, for good or evil, of an Albany Senate or Assembly; for of all the unreliabie things on earth an Albany Legislature is certainly the most unreliable. This fact has been exemplified more than once during the past under extraordinary as well as the most ordinary of circumstances, and the knowing ones, who have of late years in the early winter been bold enough to stake their reputation as prophets on an attempt to tell by the shuffle of the political cards in January what would be trumps in May, have almost invariably been compelled to hide their diminished heads when the actual result was made a part of Albany history at the close of the session. However, it is by no means an attempt at a political prophecy to state that events point to an active session; for the activity employed by politicians previous to session is not always a sure indication of what the general policy of a majority may be. First and remost, the first indication just now is the struggie that is going on for the Speakership, and sec ond, the activity manifested by the lobbyists in rganizing their forces for the coming campaign. It may be that in some respects the latter may have a great deal to do with the final result of the former, but to what extent or to what side the pernicious influence of these infamous rascals. who make a winter livelihood by bribery and corruption, will eventually be thrown is a question that has yet to be answered. Nevertheless, it is a fact that no one dare deny, who knows anything

THE INS AND OUTS OF ALBANY LEGISLATION, that the lobby has always in the past, with but a few notable instances, bad altogether too much to do not only with the annual contests for the honors of the Speakership, but afterward with the snaping of the important committees which it was the privilege of the Speaker to appoint. The fact that they have already begun to lay their wires and to canvass for the coming struggle ought to be enough to place honest members on their guard against the woives in sheeps' clothing whom they are doubtless encountering now, and whom they will continue to encounter until the first day of the session. The struggle this year is to be, apparently, a bitter one, and the various incongruous elements which are being brought together as a support by some of the small fry candidates show quite plainly that there is at the bottom of not a few of the little plans already set on foot for the furtherance of this and that man's chances a great deal that smacks of JOBBERY AND THIRD HOUSE PRESSURE.

The lobbymen who have so far come to the surface in the canvassing have not dared to proclaim themselves openly the ultra champions of any particular one of the four or six candidates already in the field, but the way they are working indicates that they will in the long run go for any man who promises them the most in return, or from whom, at least, they have good reason to suppose that great favors can be expected, provided they induce some as yet undecided friend or two to vote all right. It is gratifying to know that up to the present time these contemptible creatures have not shown a preference for either of the two most prominent candidates, and have contented themselves with calculating the odds against the other aspirants and as to which one would stand the best show as a compromise candidate if one should be necessary. This policy is a shrewd one; but it is not so covert that the parties of the second part most concerned cannot see through it. The fact is that if the fight is narrowed down to two men, as it seems to be already, it becomes a great question who the other aspirants are, so as to get the right king of committees to suit the views and desires of the gentlemen of the Third House, and this in a nut-shell is the prize the lobbymen are after. If certain committees can be controlled by certain men, the Speakership question, so far as the less prominent candidates are concerned, will not be a bone of contention among them, and all will go along as merrifly as a marriage bell. Just at presin the canvassing have not dared to proclaim a bone of contention among them, and all will go along as merrily as a marriage bell. Just at pres-ent the two real candidates for the Speakership are James H. Husted, of Westchester, and L. Brad-ford Prince, of Queens. These two gentlemen were candidates in a certain way last year before the

session opened, and neither of them was elected by reason of the simple fact that the Custom House clique at the time controlled the slate makers, and that quite another man had been booked for the position. Everyhold withdrew from time was treated—the one being made chairman of the Judiciary Committee and the other laid on the shelf as a figurehead for an insignificant committee. All that could be done by the Gustom House party was done to humilate Husted, and at one time it looked as though he would mercan and fight on his own hook, regardless of the plans of the majority. But he did not. He remained throughout a steadfast party man, an out-and-out republican, and before the session closed he had the satisfaction of finding the "leaders," who had endeavored to turn him adrift, imploring him to come to their assistance against a powerful combination that had suddenly been made against them. For his services during the session, which were invaluable at the time they were given to the men who most needed them, he was promised the Custom House support this year for the speakership, and it is upon this promise his most enthusiastic riends are building their strongest hopes for his final success. But Mr. Husted has more than once in the past listened to promises that were proken to the ear afterward, and it may be that the year 18'4 may not have in atore for him an exceptional fate. If it should not, the question as to subject to the party of the party in power and to have made the party and though, as has aiready been mentioned, he has been a standing candidate for Speaker, and at the same thing when the same thing when he had one the same thing when he had one the same thing when he had one to the party in power and to the party in the ascendant, the rumor that the custom House was t

will really be the loser in the struggle. These are hard things, absolutely essential, however, to make this independent movement a success, it being taken for granted that there are 21 republicans who are willing to go just whichever way the Custom House will not go—namely, first, an independent candidate, and, second, the co-operation of the democrats. The latter, it is claimed, would like nothing better than to defeat the Custom House by joining hands with republicans who would guarantee them a Speaker who would really be a non-party man, and also a fair showing on the important committees; for at best they know they cannot elect a Speaker themselves unaided, por can they lare any worse on the committees by assisting in the independent movement than if they do not. And who is the independent candidate? There are several pronounced liberals in the House, it is true, but none of them are acceptable to the would-be independent republicans, and so the man who himself claims to be an "independent" is Thomas G. Alvord, who was nominated by the iberals of his district and endorsed by the democrats, but who was elected without giving any pledges—in fact, without having formally accepted the nomination. If the democrats are willing to take him, and the anti-Custom House republicans give him their support, all will be up with Husted and Prince. It is said that the republicans will not invite Alvord to their cancus, thus ruling against him as a republican, and that the democrats will not invite him, This is just what the old man wants, for by this action he will be in reality.

democrats will not invite him. This is just what the old man wants, for by this action he will be in reality

A NO-PARTY MAN, just the man for the combination to fall back upon when Husted and Prince shall have developed their strength in caucus. Yet against all the probabilities as to the republican combination and the willingness of the democrats to join in it, there comes the story that alvord will not be a candidate against Husted under any circumstances, and that he made a pledge to that effect to the "Baid Pagle" the winter before last, when the latter nominated the old man in cancus against Smith, who was finally elected, and who made such a laughing stock of himself as Speaker afterwards. If this pledge was really made, and Alvord stands by it, the combination will, in all probability, give up its plan, and Husted will, of course, se the gainer; because the Custom House party would have in self-defence to nominate him, knowing that if he withdrew from the field (if they refused him support) Alvord would be certain to come to the front and win the day against them. Be that as it may, if the republicans who now talk anti-Custom are really in earnest, and the damocrats, like Barkis, are "willin" to join them, even though Alvord should refuse to run against Hussed, another "independent" might easily be found to take his place. The Custom House men, combination or no combination, will doubtless do their level best to come out ahead, if they really mean to make a fight, and if they do succeed in converting the anti-Custom House republicans to their way of thinking, their plan will doubtless be the old one of making the party fight in caucus so bitter and so evenly balanced as between Husted and Prince that a third man will have to be taken up. In such a contingency, by gracefully taking up as their new candidate some man they know to be all right with the anti-Custom House republicans they will not only break up the combination itself, but come out of the contest—on the surface, at least—a giorious victor. Th

ANOTHER PRIZE FIGHT.

Jim Turner, of Brooklyn, and John Gallagher, of New York, Meet in a Room Near Fort Hamilton-They Fight for a Purse of \$50-Gallagher Withdraws at the Twentieth Round-The Police Looking After the Principals. Brooklyn seems to be the haven of the demoral-

zed rough nowadays, or rather it is the place sprung that within the past few weeks broke the peace and outrageously violated the laws of the community around about us. Or, in other words, the boasted quiet City of Churches, despite its vaunted police, has among its residents certain disreputable people wno, having neither the lear of the law nor the clubs of Folk's officers in their minds, conceived and carried into execution two prize fights within 10 days past. True, the fighting was poor and the men of no account, but that is of little consequence in lessening the guilt of the parties or shielding the detective character of Brooklyn's Police Department. The last brutal exhibition came off yesterday morning, about three o'clock, at a point on Long Island near Port Hamilton, easily reached by carriags, and by which conveyance all the parties left Brooklyn for the rendezvous. The principals were John Gallagher, rendezvous. The principals were John Gallagher, of the Fourth ward of New York, and Jim Turner, of Brookjn. The former is but 21 years of age; weighed, when stripped 130 pounds; while Turner is an "old man," and will tip the scales at 170 pounds. It was Gallagher's first appearance in the "ring," and, without doubt, he is now aware that it is not best to put one's trust in what the men who conceive these exhibitions say. Two pails of water were brought into the room selected for the fight, the men took their places, and, with their seconds—whose names, with the referee's, are purposely withheld—began the work of preparation. In a moment "time" was called and they advanced to the centre of the room, shook hands, and began the work of smashing each other's faces. The character of the fight and its abrupt termi

nation does not call for an extended report of the rounds. Gallagher was the taller of the two, and in the better condition, yet the betting was in favor rounds. Gallagher was the tailer of the two, and in the better condition, yet the betting was in favor of Turner. Gallagher went to work in carnest, and from the commencement had the best of it. In the third round ne skinned Turner's nose and drew blood, the first of the evening. The rounds were short but quite stubborn, and on the twelfth Turner's bead began to swell, and from this time Gallagher's tew friends looked upon him as a sure winner. Turner's friends now began to be noisy, and bets were offered of 50 to 5 on "the old man," which "mouthings" had their effect and began to weaken Gallagher's confidence in himself. In the fifteenth, suxteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth rounds Turner went down to avoid punishment, and on the twentieth and last Gallagher went up to Turner, and, smashing him under the left eye, there ensued a lively exchange, with the punishment equally divided, when, to the astonishment of all present, Gallagher would no longer fight. The only reason he attributed for his refusing to go on was that the majority of the party was against him, and even if he did whip his man there was no show of his getting the decision in his favor or of obtaining a cent of the little purse, believed to be about \$50. The party then adjourned to the bar, where there was a great deal of drinking and much obscenity. The fighting lasted 27 minutes.

Shortly after four o'clock the crowd left for Brooklyn, and on the way to the Fulton ferry one of the carriages, containing a lew of "the boys" and one of the principals, was stopped by a squad of police, who, with drawn revolvers, detained it fully half an hour, "just until the Sergeant comes up from below," said they. This official had gone on an inspecting tour, but was late, or, in the intelligent language of one of the company, he "was not in time for Lanigan's ball." The carriage was at last allowed to proceed, and the Sergeant and his men thereby let slip a chance, perbaps, of performing a creditable duty. The cnarage was at last allowed to procee

ESSEX MARKET POLICE COURT.

Before Justice Otterbourg. Too Free with His Pistol.

George Snyder, of No. 164 Ludlow street, was committed in default of \$1,000 bail, charged with firing a pistol at William Martin, of No. 90 Willett dring a pistol at William Martin, of No. 20 Willett street. The evidence shows that the offence was committed on last Election Day. It appears Martin was bringing a friend up to the poils to vote and Snyder tried to induce the man to vote a different ticket than he intended. Snyder and Martin had some hot words, and, meeting later in the evening, had a light. Snyder drew a revolver and fired, but missed Martin. He ran off and has been "out of town" ever since. He was arrested yester-terday by Officer O'Connor, of the Eleventh precinct, who has been looking for him since Election Day.

A Brutal Scoundrel.

A Brutal Scoundrel. Abraham Strauss, of No. 27 Orchard street, was committed on a charge of outraging a little girl, aged five years, named Bertha Weinberg. The outrage was perpetrated last evening.

COURT CALENDARS-THIS DAY

COURT—GENERAL TERM.—Adjourned until Monday.
SUFREME COURT—CHAMBERS—Held by Judge
Bra Jy.—Nos. 36, 74, 87, 92, 99, 103, 122½, 165, 176, 182,
187, 202, 204, 206, 210, 211, 213, 217.
SUFREME COURT—CRETIT—Part 1.—Regular
term adjourned for the term. Fart 2—Adjourned
Term.—Held by Judge Van Brunt—Short Causes.—
Nos. 276½, 1343, 1486, 2710, 2898, 3116, 2564, 1666, 2258,
2794, 2938, 2958, 3300½, 3224, 3245½, 952, 1284, 3142,
3216, 3218, 3223, 3260.
SUFRENGE COURT—TRIAL TERM—Part 1.—Ad-

3216, 3218, 3223, 3260.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM—Part 1.—Adjourned for the term.

COURT OF COMMON PLRAS—TRIAL TERM—Part 1.—
Adjourned for the term. Part 2.—Adjourned for the term. Equity Term adjourned until December 29. ber 29.

MARINE COURT—TRIAL TERM—Part 1.—Adjourned for the term. Fart 2.—Adjourned for the term. Part 3—Heid by Judge Joachimsen.—Nos. 3067,

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.—Adjourned until Monday.